The Bible and Daily Living

Love, forgiveness

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Jesus Speaks on Love and Forgiveness
Lesson for February 22, 1981
Bible Study Passage: Matthew 18:1-6, 15-22

Introduction

This week's lesson looks at three human concerns which trouble everyone at some point. These three troublespots include **humiliation, reconciliation** and **forgiveness.** Few people score an A+ in either one of these human responses. Most of us can stand to improve upon our expressions of humility, reconciliation and forgiveness. Jesus practiced all three and revealed the benefits of living a life marked by humility, concern for reconciling differences, and the willingness to forgive.

Becoming as a Child [Matthew 18:1-6]

The disciples came to Jesus asking who occupied the number one position within the kingdom of heaven. Such a question reveals the disciples had false ideas about the nature of the kingdom. They looked to Jesus to establish an earthly realm where they might enjoy stately positions. There was a competitive spirit among the disciples just as there is today. In churches and denominations one often sees the political games played as persons jockey for positions.

Sometimes our ambitious ways reflects a belief that prestige in "high places" is the mark of greatness. Few would ever stop to contemplate Jesus' notion that to be great one must be childlike. What did Jesus possibly mean with such a statement?

Our Lord's reference to children says a great deal about him. He loved little children and saw qualities in them that all disciples of the kingdom should strive to possess. Such qualities include humility, dependency, trust, friendly, honest, full of wonderment and expectancy. Such qualities from the basis of a faith that Jesus hoped for in his followers.

Jesus was also very adamant about responsibility in caring for children. He expressed rage toward anyone who would harm a child in any way. He no doubt felt a lot of compassion for children who were hungry, sick, or abused. Were he to live in our midst today he would be sorely displeased at the crimes committed against children.

The Ministry of Peacemaking [Matthew 18:15-20]

It takes a great deal more effort to make peace than it does to keep the peace. Jesus was concerned that his followers lived in harmony. What he said was later taught in the early church. The implication of what he taught was that the believer is to take responsibility in peacemaking. The victim of an injustice must not assume that the other party is going to set things right. This is the reason that reconciliation and peacemaking is so difficult, namely, the one who is hurt must take on the responsibility of restoring the broken relationship.

Jesus further emphasized that we are not to give up in our efforts at reconciliation. It is so easy to let matters drop rather than deal with tham at the moment. Some broken relationships go on for years without attempts to mend them. Resentment builds and festers until the brokenness eats away like a cancer and leaves wounds that never heal.

The Spirit of Forgiveness [Matthew 18:21-22]

There is no greater "tonic" than forgiveness. Better even than Geritol! Peacemaking and reconciliation naturally imply forgiveness. How often are we to forgive those who hurt us? According to Jesus there are no limits on the spirit of forgiveness. Humans cannot coexist together under the same roof without hurting one another. But true love and respect will seek and give the gift of forgiveness.

Jesus did not advocate violence as a means of whipping an offender into submission and repentance. Instead Jesus argued for no limitations in the practice of forgiveness!

In our lesson we note that Jesus' approach to forgiveness was quite radical from the Jewish law. He did not place any limits on the number of times we are to forgive. We are not to keep score as if there is some stopping place in our practice of forgiveness. The good news is that love keeps no score of wrongs.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP)

4-H'ERS PREPARE TO BLAST OFF! Building model rockets can be a fun filled hobby for many young people. Over the past two years, Appomattox 4-H'ers have been introduced to model rocketry at 4-H Camp and during summer workshops. The members pictured above, Jeff Williams, Darrell Conner, Danny Williams and David Short, have gone a step further and constructed more advanced rockets. These rockets, when launched, reach over 1,000 feet in height. An ejection charge releases a parachute and the rocket floats safely back to earth.

Letter to the editor

Buckingham launches programs to clean up

Editor:

The Buckingham County Board of Supervisors is proud to have a volunteer citizen group working to improve the appearance of Buckingham County. That group, the Buckingham County Anti-Litter Task Force, has undertaken a number of activities for improvement of the County's appearance. This letter is intended to acquaint you with four of those activities, which your group may want to join in participating with.

First, the Task Force has developed an audio-visual presentation which is available for showing at small or large group meetings. The presentation, along with all equipment needed, can be obtained by notifying the County Administrator's office, 969-4241. The presentation lasts about five minutes and is an excellent short program for any occasion. If desired, a member of the Anti-Litter Task Force can be asked to present the program for your group.

The Task Force is also sponsoring an awards competition for organizations, businesses, industries, and youth groups who conduct outstanding programs for litter prevention or recycling. Award categories are youth groups, organizations, businesses and industries, elementary schools, and secondary schools. Total prize money, made available by the Virginia Division of Litter Control, of up to $500.00 will be awarded. Information on the contest is available from the County Administrator's office or Virginia Bailey, Cooperative Extension Program Unit Chairman. Intent to enter the contest should be made to the County Administrator's office by February 28. Entries will be received by April 24, 1981.

The Buckingham High School Ecology Club will sponsor a workshop for businesses on improving the appearance of business sites. Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation Landscape Specialist Watkins Fisher will conduct the workshop at the Bank of Buckingham at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 1981. All County businesses and other interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

The Board of Supervisors has designated April 4 through April 18 as the annual County-wide Spring Clean-Up. As in the past several years, the clean-up will call on citizens throughout the County to work with district chairman in each magisterial district and clean-up litter along the County's roadsides. Special pick-up services for large items, which will not fit into the County's green boxes, will be provided during that period. Co-chairmen for the 1981 Clean-up are Harold Trumbo and Gordon Baldwin.

I hope that you and organizations that you belong to will join in these activities to improve the appearance of Buckingham County. Thanking you for your interest in keeping Buckingham beautiful, I am

Sincerely,
M. Cleveland Jones
Chairman

Negotiations continue in telephone wage dispute

A dispute over wage increases caused negotiations between Continental Telephone of Virginia and Communications Workers of America Local 2275 to break down Saturday, Feb. 7, in spite of a federal mediator's efforts to keep talks going. This, according to Frank Casazza, assistant vice-president-personnel, Continental's Eastern Region.

The union's bargaining committee appeared to be unwilling to discuss any remaining issues until Continental removed its cap on the proposed second and third year wage increases, he said.

Basically, the cap states that employees will receive no more than 10.5 percent wage increase in the second year, and no more than a 10.5 percent wage increase in the third year. Built into this percentage is a general wage adjustment plus a cost of living increase.

"We feel this is an equitable wage adjustment," said Casazza. "Our employees are among the highest paid workers in our serving areas in Virginia."

At this time, there are no plans by either side to resume negotiations.

According to Casazza, more than 35 percent of the workers affected by the strike are on the job and more are returning every day. He said management personnel are filling in for the workers on strike, taking care of repair calls first. There may be some delay in operator assisted calls and service installations, Casazza added.

"Vandalism is becoming a problem in several areas," Casazza reported. "It's a problem for Continental, but its more of a problem for our customers—especially when the vandalism affects service."

"A cut cable can put an entire exchange out of service for hours," he said. "And when this occurs, what happens to those customers who must call police, fire departments, or rescue squads for emergency assistance? The customer may receive help too late or not at all. This problem is of real concern to us."

The Pastor Speaks

By PETER R. HALE
Walker's Presbyterian Church
Appomattox Courthouse Presbyterian Church

There are many experiences that we as human beings share and have in common. Yet we perceive and understand them in individual and unique ways. We are alike and yet different. Nothing illustrates this better than the way we handle death in the family of a friend. Funeral customs and traditions differ in different parts of the country, as do the ways each community expresses its care and concern for those who suffer loss.

One fact, however, stands true almost everywhere. It is hard to know what to say to someone when that person has lost a loved one. There are people who say a lot, using Biblical or theological or church language. They mean well, and it is received that way. Yet it is inadequate and they know it. At times like that it appears that our words don't do as well as they should, probably because they are more superficial than the feelings of grief, or loss. Non-verbal language is perhaps the better to use here. A hug, a kiss, and an "I am truly sorry," convey all the care and love that can be felt. There will be time enough later to deal with the relationships that cover trusting faith, the Love of God, and His will. Time, while it does not heal, does put perspective into our lives and is a Gift of God.

Peter R. Hale is pastor of Walker's Presbyterian Church and Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church.

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Anderson Reports

A slow week in the House of Delegates

By CLAUDE W. ANDERSON

This week has been a little slower for those of us in the House of Delegates as we finished all of the work on our House Bills sometime in the wee hours of Monday morning. We sent around 500 bills to the Senate for their consideration.

The budget bill was approved by the House on Wednesday afternoon and is now before the Senate Finance Committee. I am very happy to report that overall, 62.7 million dollars of additional assistance will be made available to localities for public schools. The per pupil amount of basic aid has been raised from $1099 to $1184.

Another budget amendment which will benefit my district provides $35,000 to the Society of Descendants of Peter Francisco. This money will be used to assist with the restoration of Locust Grove, Peter Francisco's home in Buckingham County.

As you know, I have been hesitant about the many bills which have been introduced to remove taxes, as there are certain services which must be provided. I did, however, support a bill last week that I felt will provide some relief for families with incomes of less than $50,000. The bill will revise the state income tax laws to simplify the forms and increase the personal deductions. This bill is now being considered by the Senate Finance Committee.

Senator Howard Anderson introduced a resolution this year which has been approved by the Senate and is now before my subcommittee in the House Privileges and Electoins Committee. This resolution seeks to limit the types of legislation which can be introduced during the "short", odd-year session of the Legislature. It just is not humanly possible to give proper consideration to over 1,000 bills in 30 days. We are not handling the people's busness properly if we are not able to comprehend the legislation prior to taking a vote on it.

I still expect us to finish our work next Saturday. The Senate committees are meeting during the day and at night so that we can finish on time. Once we adjourn on the 21st; the Senate and House Privileges and Elections Committees begin their work on redistricting. Public hearings will be conducted throughout the state prior to the Assembly returning to Richmond on April 1.

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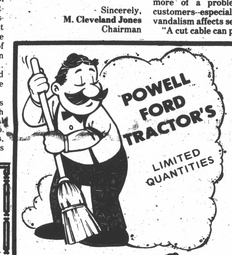

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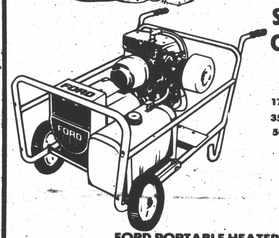
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Social News

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Dunnevant of Lynchburg were luncheon guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Vaughan.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Thomas of Newport News spent the week end with her mother, Mrs. S. J. Evans.

Mrs. Peggy Romanac and daughters, Kim and Michelle, have returned home after a week's vacation in Orlando, Florida.

* * *

Mrs. E. L. Almond and daughter, Dana of Madison Heights were Saturday dinner guests of her mother, Mrs. S. J. Evans.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Red Coleman visited Mr. and Mrs. Ken Coleman and Carter in Lexington Saturday evening.

* * *

Dennis Elder of West Point was the guest of Bill Sherrod for the week end.

* * *

Mrs. Irvin C. Moses was honored on Friday, February 6 with a party celebrating her 85th birthday. Hostesses for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Teddy Garrett and daughters, Cindy and Missie; Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Garrett and sons, Jeff and Michael; Mrs. Emma Garrett and daughter, Gerlynn.

Mrs. Moses received, among other gifts, several birthday cakes made by family members which was served with ice cream, nuts, mints and punch.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. George Kruer of Arlington were overnight guests of her mother, Mrs. Irvin C. Moses on Thursday, February 12; they were enroute to Fernandina Beach, Florida.

* * *

Recent guests in the home of Mrs. Irvin C. Moses were Todd and Bettie Craft, Mrs. Emma Lemon, Mrs. Margaret O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wilkerson, Mrs. Lillian Love and Mrs. Agnes Wilkerson.

Carver-Price reunion planned

Plans have been formulated for the Old Carver-Price High School class reunion to be held June 5, 6 and 7.

The fee for participation is $50.00 per couple. Anyone wishing to participate please contact Carl Moore at 352-7204 or Lewis Fitch at 237-3689 before March 20.

Appomattox Woman's Club plans dinner meeting

The Appomattox Woman's Club will meet on Monday evening, March 2 at 6:30 at the John Mosby Inn Restaurant for a dinner meeting. Plan now to attend and get reservations in by calling Ann Robinson, Louise Plunkett, Frances Paulette or Barbara Williams before February 25.

Revised lunch program

Appomattox County Public Schools this week announced its revised policy for free and reduced-price meals and free milk for children unable to pay the full price of meals and milk served under the National School Lunch and Special Milk Programs. This is a required by P.L. 499 (Reconciliation Bill) enacted December 5, 1980.

Family Size	Maximum Family Income for Free Meals & Free Milk: Yearly	Monthly	Weekly	Family Income for Reduced Price Meals: Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	$ 5700	$ 475	$110	$5,701-8,250	$ 476-688	$111-$161
2	7520	602	139	7,521-10,730	653-894	140-206
3	8750	729	168	8,751-13,110	730-1093	169-252
4	10270	856	198	10,271-15,490	857-1291	199-298
5	11800	983	227	11,801-17,870	984-1489	228-344
6	13320	1110	256	13,321-20-250	1111-1688	257-389
7	14850	1238	286	14,851-22,630	1239-1885	287-435
8	16370	1364	315	16,371-25,000	1365-2083	315-481
For each additional family member add	1,530	$128	$29	$2,380	$198	$46

Personnel of the Appomattox County Schools will review applications presently on file. After determining eligibility under the new scale, parents of children whose eligibility is changed (free to reduced price, reduced price to full price, etc.) will be notified in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the effective date of the change.

By March 2, 1981, the schools will complete the redetermination of eligibility of all applicants and parents of children whose eligibility is changed will be notified by March 13, 1981. The new eligibility will be implemented, beginning March 16.

Parents of children whose eligibility has changed may submit a new application if the family size or income has changed. You may request an application from the school your child attends.

Need for natural gas growing steadily

Transco Companies Inc. reported unaudited net income available for common stock for 1980 of $112.5 million, or $4.72 per common share, up 65 percent from 1979 net income of $68.4 million, or $2.96 a share. Revenues rose 72 percent to $2.6 billion from $1.5 billion in 1979.

For the fourth quarter of 1980, net income available for common stock was $31.7 million, or $1.31 per share, compared with the 1979 fourth quarter of $22.4 million or $0.97 per share.

Increased oil and gas production, improved prices and higher pipeline sales were the principal factors for the record results.

"Transco Exploration's $1 billion investment in oil and gas exploration and development now is beginning to pay off," said Chairman and President Jack Bowen.

Transco Exploration in 1980 contributed to net income for the first time. Natural gas production increased 111 percent from 32.6 billion cubic feet (Bcf) in 1979 to 68.8 Bcf in 1980. Oil and condensate production rose 40 percent from 2.7 million barrels to 3.8 million barrels in 1980. Despite the significantly higher production, Transco Exploration estimated its proved reserves at year-end increased to 413 Bcf of gas and 19.4 million barrels of oil and condensate from 1979 reserves of 401 Bcf and 19.2 million barrels of oil and condensate.

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line reported a 25 percent increase in sales volumes from 715 Bcf in 1979 to 891 Bcf in 1980. The pipeline also transported 398 Bcf for others, compared with 381 Bcf the year before. In addition, proved reserves dedicated to the pipeline improved, moving from 6.5 to 6.65 trillion cubic feet.

Bowen said the pipeline's outstanding sales performance resulted from an increased supply of natural gas available for sale by the Transco system, coupled with strong market demand. "The need for natural gas is growing steadily because of increased demand in residential and other high priority sectors."

The increase in year-end reserves was partially due to a program carried out in the mid-1970's to obtain advance commitments of gas and to aggressive gas purchase activities which became increasingly effective after passage of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978. Discoveries by Transco Exploration, which dedicates most of its gas to the pipeline, also helped boost the reserves figure.

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All men of the church are urged to attend and participate in the activities.

Men's Day planned Feb. 22

Liberty Chapel Baptist Church will observe Men's Day on Sunday, February 22.

Breakfast will be served for the men at 8 a.m. at the church.

Sunday School will begin at 10 a.m. and Worship Service will begin at 11 a.m. Joe Megginson, Jr. of Richmond will be lay speaker. Kirk Harris is director and the Rev. J. N. Williams is pastor of the church.

ACRTA meeting set for Mar. 3

Appomattox County Retired Teachers Association will meet for lunch on Tuesday, March 3 at 12 noon at St. Anne's Episcopal Church.

All members are urged to attend.

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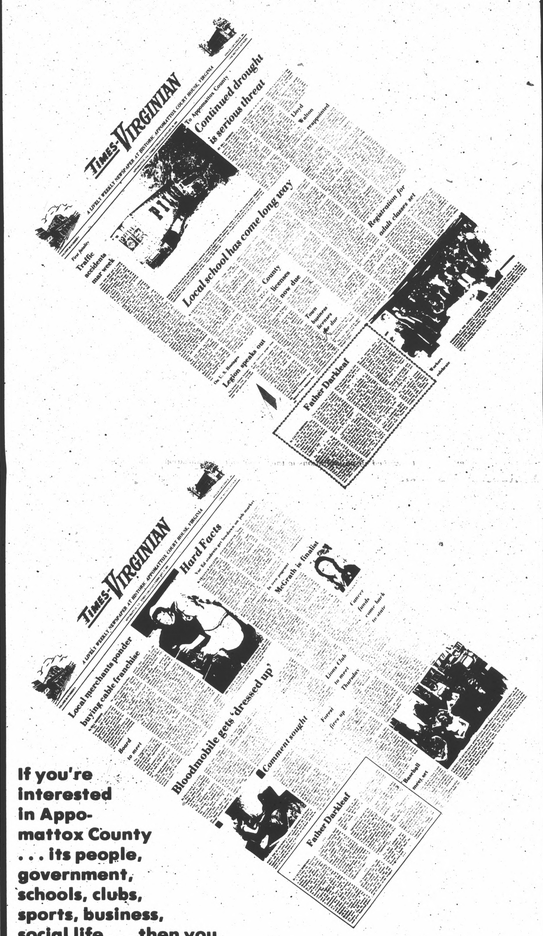

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